

NORTH DAKOTA CHESS ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to Chess and Education

APRIL ' 1997 NDCA NEWSLETTER

NORTH DAKOTA CHESS ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

LIFE MASTER STEPHAN A. POPEL-Elected in 1983

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NDCA Officers

President-John Allensworth

Vice President-Brian Thompson

Sec/Treas-Dale R. Sailer

Public Relations-Mike Sailer

NDCA dues are required of all chess players residing in ND that play in ND tournaments(not mandatory for ND Scholastic) \$7 per year, \$5 if under age 18.

Dues and material for the June ' 1997 Newsletter should be sent to Dale Sailer, 3207 E. Elmwood Dr., Grand Forks, ND 58201. (Because of flood send after 5/15/97)

FARGO AREA CHESS CLUB-The STARRY KNIGHTS CLUB meets Thursday nights at 7:00 PM . There are no fees or dues of any kind. Contact: ART BAYLEY 239-4985

UND CHESS CLUB-Starting Sept. 1997** Contact: Dale Sailer 775-6692**

CHESS TOURNAMENTS

May 3-4 1997-ND Scholastic-Mandan High School, 905 8th Ave NW, Mandan, ND

May 16,1997 ND Speed Tournament-Best Western Doublewood Inn-Bismarck, ND

May 17-18, 1997-ND Closed-Best Western Doublewood Inn-Bismarck, ND

May 31, 1997-Post Flood Tourney-Art's Bayleywick-2608 Pacific Drive #4, Fargo, ND

June 28, 1997-97 ND Open Quick Chess Championship-Carnegie Regional Library-Grafton,ND

July 19, 1997-Midsummer Open-Carnegie Regional Library-Grafton, ND

August 16, 1997-Grafton Dog Days Open-Carnegie Regional Library-Grafton, ND

Contact NDCA reps.

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Art Bayley 2608 Pacific Drive #4 Fargo, ND 58103 (701)239-4985

Marvin Johnson Box 751 Minot, ND 58701

Brookings, SD Joehouse Coffee Club Annual Chess TMT

White: Osman Palos 2390

Black: Mike Sailer 2198

Just a note about Osman Palos. Osman is a Yugoslavia immigrant who now resides in the Chicago area. Palos told me he had two out of the three GM norms needed to be a grandmaster. I didn't completely believe him until I started looking at my old informates and saw that he use to be rated 2460 FIDE. I also was impressed that Palos started out 4 out of 4 in the open section of the NY Open this year before losing to the eventual winner. I also found a crosstable in which Palos finished first in a quick tournament in Chicago ahead of such players as Emory Tate. All things considered, this was my most satisfying victory.

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. Bg5 Bg7 4. Nbd2 (I don't think too much of this move. I believe it commits the queenside knight before it needs to be moved. The only advantage to the move is it does pretty much force black to play 4. ... d5, but I don't see any real disadvantage to black for playing this move. I think both e3 and c4 would be better moves with more flexibility.) d5 5. c3 (I hate to be too critical of the opening moves of such a strong player, but I see no reason to play this move at this point when there are still useful developing moves for white to play. Although the move will probably transpose to some main line, there might be some lines in which it is not necessary for white to play this move. Once again, 5. c3 is the more accurate move.) O-O 6. c3 b6 (Some players might wonder why it is necessary to fianchetto the queenside bishop when there are plenty of other squares to develop this bishop such as f5 and g4. My plan was to develop it on b7 to control the critical e4 square. I am also threatening to develop the bishop to a6 and trade off white's powerful light-squared bishop.) 7. Be2 Bb7 8. O-O Nbd7 (It wouldn't be fair for me to criticize my opponents development of his queenside knight to d2 without properly justifying my development of my knight to d7. As I stated earlier, the critical opening fight will be centered around the e4 square. If white can successfully play e4, he would gain the upperhand. If I can successfully prevent my distinguished opponent from playing this move, My prospects of winning will increase.) 9. h3 (I know white played this move to preserve the bishop on g5. I'm not going to criticize the move, although it isn't a move I would play. My personal style is not to waste opening moves just to preserve a certain piece. I normally keep playing productive, developing moves at all costs. I am usually more than willing to allow an opponent to trade off a knight for one of my strong bishops as long as I can gain the initiative in the process. Just a personal preference. I know of many strong players that don't agree with my philosophy.) Ne4 (If I had it to do over again, I would have waited on this move and played something else. All black does is give white something to do. It would have been more advisable to make white force the issue in the center.) 10. Nxe4 de4 11. Nd2 Qe8 (Removing the pin of the c pawn.) 12. f3 ef 13. Bxf3 Bxf3 14. Qxf3 c5 (Black needs to loosen up the center to gain counterplay.) 15. Rae1 e5 16. d5 (This might look like a real powerful move, but it has many drawbacks. Although a protected passed pawn is a tremendous strength in the endgame, it makes for a very inflexible middlegame. Many times, the player with the protected passed pawn is rendered to a defensive game as the other player pushes his pawns up the board gaining counterplay.) f5 (Before white can realize his protected passed center pawn, he will have to deal with my kingside majority. Many players probably figure I'm trying for a kingside attack. Actually, I would push my kingside pawns no matter where white's king would have been. The bottom line is black has the advantage on the kingside, and that is where he must gain counterplay. Obviously, if a mating attack results from such counterplay, I will by no means turn down such an opportunity.) 17. e4 f4 18. Ne4 Bf6 (It has become necessary for black to either activate this bishop or trade it off. If black enters an endgame with this bishop still on g7, white would have a tremendous advantage.) 19. Bh6 Bg7 20. Bg5 Bf6 21. Qg4 (Just a note, if white would have tried to repeat the position a third time, I would have played Bh4. Good or bad, I was 1/2 point out of the lead in the last round and a draw wasn't an acceptable alternative.) Bxg5 22. Qxg5 Qd8 23. Qg4 Rf6 24. a4 (White needs to open lines on the queenside or else he will get crushed on the kingside.) Qc7 25. Nd2 Qg7 26. Nf3 (White is asking for trouble blocking in his queen from escape.) g5 27. b4 Rg6 28. a5 (A horrible blunder by white. Now he loses his queen by force.) h5 29. Qxh5 Nf6 30. Qxg6 Qxg6 31. Nxe5 Qh7 (Black is up a queen for a rook and 2 pawns, but black still has to contend with white's pawns.) 32. bc bc 33. c4 Nxe4 34. Ng4 Kf8 35. Rd1 Nd6 36. Rde1 Qd3 37. Re6 Nxe4 38. h4 Qxd5 (I decided to liquidate the center at the cost of allowing white to crash through on the kingside. Maybe not the most accurate plan, but in all honesty, I couldn't figure out anything better.) 39. Rh6 Qd4+ (I was trying to hold this check in reserve, but the time was right to force white's king to the h file. My strategy in doing this was to make it as uncomfortable for white

as possible to push his h pawn up the board.) 40. Kh1 Kg7 41. Rb1 Nd6 42. h5 Rh8 43. Rg6+ Kf7 44. Rxf5 c4 (This was a difficult stage in the game for me. White has a ton of play against my king on the kingside. However, White has no immediate threats. Unfortunately, I couldn't find any real productive plan for black either. Getting short of time, I decided to remind white that I had a passed pawn I could push down the board as well. All black needs to do is divert one of white's pieces to the defense of this pawn queening.) 45. Re1 Ne4 46. Ne5+ Kf6 47. Nf3 Qd3 48. Rg6 Ke7 49. h6 Kd8 (This was my best plan the whole game. I was getting tired of white pressuring my king on the kingside. White's h pawn is going nowhere and it will take white quite a few moves to reorganize his pieces to the queenside for another onslaught.) 50. Ne5 Qd5 (My centralized queen was starting to make things uncomfortable for white to find good places to put his pieces.) 51. Ne6+ Kc7 52. Ne7 Qh5+ (Black now wins white's knight on e7 by force.) 53. Kg1 Qc5+ 54. Kh2 Qxe7 55. g3 f3 (I know there are better moves, but I was down to a few minutes left in sudden death time control. I saw that the move f3 forced checkmate and I didn't look at any other moves.) 56. Rf1 Qf7 57. Rg4 Rxh6 58. Kg1 Qh5 59. Rg7+ Kc6 60. Rxf3 Qh1 Mate.

Chess Tournament Winners

Forty seven students in grades k-6 played in the first ever chess tournament at Lincoln Elementary School, Fargo, Saturday. Every contestant played five games. A win scores one point and a draw earns 1/2 point.

Tied for first place in the K-3 group were Ivan Ivanav and Robert Thompson, both of Centennial School, Fargo, with 4 1/2 points each.

Jared Wald, Centennial School, Fargo, and Casey Erdmann, Park Christian School, Moorhead, tied for second with 4 points each.

Third place finishers were Anders Johnson, Centennial School, Bismarck, and Paul Huhn, Centennial School, Fargo with 3 1/2 points each.

Ben McLean, Centennial School, Fargo, was the 1st place winner in grades 4-6 with a perfect 5-0 score.

Nathan Mead, Riverside School, Moorhead, and Josh Lunski, Carl Ben Eielson School, Fargo, tied for 2nd with 4 points each.

In 3rd place were Steven Meckle, Ely Elementary, Rugby, ND, and Lee Ryan, Eastwood Elementary, West Fargo, with 3 1/2 points each.

POSTAL PONDERINGS

by John H. Leitel

Instead of just articles on North Dakota chess history, I thought that from time to time we might also have something on postal chess -- about which I have many anecdotes to tell. Shall we start with The Most Anti-Climactic Chess Tournament Ever Held? At least I sure can't think of any other important event in which not a single game was played to a finish!

In the summer of 1954, as the 1947 Golden Knights (then sponsored by the old Chess Review magazine) came to an end, four players were tied for 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th places. They were to play a double-round tiebreaker for cash awards of, respectively, \$40, \$30, \$25, and \$20 -- very respectable sums back in those pre-inflation days.

The four contestants were Robert R. Coveyou (Oak Ridge, Tenn.), Albert D. Gibbs (Rochester, N.Y.), Kenneth Kraeger (Belle Harbor, N.Y.), and Carl Wehde (Pelham, N.Y.) Gibbs and Kraeger were among the very highest-rated postalites at that time, with Coveyou and Wehde not far behind. Chess fans might have expected many hard-fought battles as these four top experts strove to prove their mettle in national competition.

And yet it didn't quite work out that way. Wehde was the first to depart. "You mean," he thought to himself, "I can get twenty bucks just for saying, 'I quit'?" And since I'm lowest-rated anyway, maybe that's a wise decision." So he withdrew about November of '54 after just a few months' play.

Gibbs was the next to decide that discretion was the better part of valor, withdrawing about June of 1955, perfectly content with 8th prize of \$25 without pushing any additional pawns.

That left Kraeger and Coveyou. They plugged away for a while, but Kraeger too soon stopped writing. Coveyou delayed until about December of 1956 before requesting forfeits, but eventually the games (and the big payoff) went to him by default. Here's the crosstable of this enthralling tussle:

COVEYOU	X X	1 ^f 1 ^f	1 ^w 1 ^w	1 ^w 1 ^w	= 6-0	6th, \$40
KRAEGER	0 ^f 0 ^f	X X	1 ^w 1 ^w	1 ^w 1 ^w	= 4-2	7th, \$30
GIBBS	0 ^w 0 ^w	0 ^w 0 ^w	X X	1 ^w 1 ^w	= 2-4	8th, \$25
WEHDE	0 ^w 0 ^w	0 ^w 0 ^w	0 ^w 0 ^w	X X	= 0-6	9th, \$20

Twelve games scheduled, none completed! Ever seen the like of it before? Even at Mannheim, 1914, they squeezed in some games before war intervened! Wish we could show you a game score from this rousing set-to, but I suppose you understand why we can't: there really weren't any.

Well, at least nobody lost any rating points. More postal ponderings another time . . .

DEEP FREEZE OPEN

No.	JANUARY 18, 1997	STATE	PRE	POST	RND #1	RND #2	RND #3	RND #4	TOTAL
1	PROEHEL, GLEN F.	MN	1959	1963	W2	W3	W3	U—	3.0
2	SCHERBENSKE, ERIC	ND	1498	1489	L1	W3	L3	U—	1.0
3	ALLENSWORTH, JOHN	ND	1409	1413	L1	L2	L1	W2	1.0

BLASTED BLIZZARD

No.	JANUARY 25, 1997	STATE	PRE	POST	RND #1	RND #2	RND #3	TOTAL
1	BUERKLE, ROGER M.	ND	1504	1495	W3	W4	L2	2.0
2	BAYLEY, ARTHUR W.	ND	1500	1491	W4	L3	W1	2.0
3	BRODSHAUG, JOEL C.	ND	1126	1198	L1	W2	W4	2.0
4	AL-NASEEV, MOHAMM	MN	0	1001	L2	L1	L3	0.0

GRAND FORKS OPEN

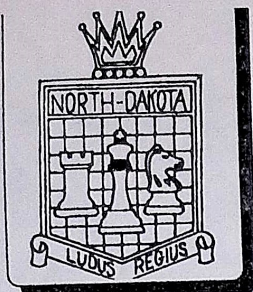
No.	FEBRUARY 22, 1997	STATE	PRE	POST	RND #1	RND #2	RND #3	TOTAL
1	CASE, RICK	ND	1909	1885	W3	W5	L2	2.0
2	BAYLEY, ARTHUR W.	ND	1491	1508	L5	W6	W1	2.0
3	SCHERBENSKE, ERIC	ND	1489	1510	L1	W4	W6	2.0
4	SAILER, DALE R.	ND	1500	1487	D6	L3	W5	1.5
5	ALLENSWORTH, JOHN	ND	1413	1417	W2	L1	L4	1.0
6	SAILER, JON	ND	1280	1274	D4	L2	L3	0.5

ROOK & PAWN POWER

No.	MARCH 8, 1997	STATE	PRE	POST	RND #1	RND #2	RND #3	TOTAL
1	THOMPSON, PETER	ND	2265	2268	W7	W3	W2	3.0
2	THOMPSON, BRIAN E.	ND	1804	1814	W6	W4	L1	2.0
3	BAKKEN, CHRIS B.	ND	1681	1718	W5	L1	W6	2.0
4	ADAMS, LYNN P.	MN	1597	1578	W8	L2	D5	1.5
5	ALNASEER, MOHAMME	MN	1001	1209	L3	W7	D4	1.5
6	BAYLEY, ARTHUR W.	ND	1508	1497	L2	W8	L3	1.0
7	THOMPSON, ROB	ND	684	957	L1	L5	W8	1.0
8	THOMPSON, DAVID	ND	950	949	L4	L6	L7	0.0

SPRING FEVER OPEN

No.	MARCH 22, 1997	STATE	PRE	POST	RND #1	RND #2	RND #3	RND #4	TOTAL
1	THOMPSON, BRIAN E.	ND	1814	1832	W17	W14	W3	W2	4.0
2	BAKKEN, CHRIS B.	ND	1718	1704	W13	W4	W7	L1	3.0
3	DAEHLIN, JONATHAN	MN	1548	1550	W18	W5	L1	W8	3.0
4	SAILER, JON	ND	1274	1296	W15	L2	W6	W13	3.0
5	ABRAHAMSON, MARV	ND	1202	1257	W9	L3	W10	W12	3.0
6	THOMPSON, DAVID	ND	949	999	W11	W15	L4	W7	3.0
7	ALLENSWORTH, JOHN	ND	1417	1392	W10	W8	L2	L6	2.0
8	ABRAHAMSON, JESSE	ND	1080	1115	W12	L7	W16	L3	2.0
9	BRUCE, JAMES	ND	0	1137	L5	L13	W18	W14	2.0
10	VIVIER, BRYAN	ND	0	1131	L7	W17	L5	W11	2.0
11	FRY, DARRON	ND	0	950	L6	W16	W15	L10	2.0
12	DECOTEAU, LOWELL	ND	0	993	L8	W18	W17	L5	2.0
13	HUOT, CURTIS	MN	0	1334	L2	W9	W14	L4	2.0
14	MINDEMAN, RONN D.	ND	1245	1214	W16	L1	L13	L9	1.0
15	MARTIN, FRANK	ND	0	787	L4	L6	L11	W18	1.0
16	ENNO, ZACK	ND	0	853	L14	L11	L8	W17	1.0
17	VEGA, MIRANDA	ND	913	864	L1	L10	L12	L16	0.0
18	LA FROMBOIS, EDWARD	ND	0	741	L3	L12	L9	L15	0.0



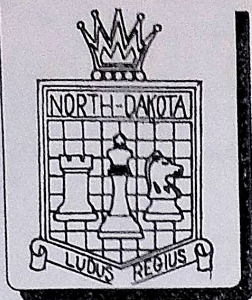
TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1997 ND Scholastic-Saturday-Sunday May 3-4, 1997 at Mandan High School, 905 8th Ave. NW, Mandan, ND. Located next to Mandan Community Center(use 7 Seas exit on I-94). Primary(grades 1-3), Middle School(grades 4-6), Junior High(grades 7-9) High School(grades 10-12). **Entry Fee:** \$6.00 per player High School and Junior High and \$4.00 per player Primary and Middle School (no discount for teams as in past years as we will have medals for Championship team members. **Prizes:** Trophies to 1st, 2nd, 3rd to individual winners in each section (tiebreak used for 2nd and 3rd place trophies), Trophy to 1st place team (tiebreak used) Register by mail if at all possible. Registration at site 10:00-10:30 AM 5/3/97. Rds Primary and Middle School-Saturday 11am-1pm-2pm-3pm-4:15pm. High School & Jr. High-Saturday 11:00am/2:00pm/5:00pm; Sunday 10:00am/ 1:00pm
Mail Entries to: Ronald Schauer, Box 7084, Bismarck, ND 58507. For information call: (701)222-3278 or (701)673-3482.

1997 North Dakota Speed- Friday May 16, 1997 At the Doublewood Inn in Bismarck (Rm. 106). Register 7:00-7:20pm. Matches starting at 7:30pm. Bring your clocks.

1997 North Dakota Closed-Saturday-Sunday May 17-18th, 1997 at the Doublewood Inn in Bismarck. USCF RATED. Entry fee: \$25; \$20 for students and those under 18 years of age. \$5.00 off if you stay at the Doublewood Inn. Registration is from: 8:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. May 17th. Rd. #1 starts at 10:00 A.M. and is game in 90. After your first round take a lunch break and be back by 1:45 P.M. for the annual NDCA meeting. The time control for rounds 2-5 will be 40/2 hours and 15/30 minutes thereafter. Rd. #2 will start as soon as possible after the annual meeting and round #3 will be at 7:30 P.M. Rounds 4 and 5 Sunday will be at 9:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. No smoking or computers are allowed. No late entry penalty for registering on May 17th. NDCA and USCF membership is required and is available at the tournament. Please bring clocks if you have one. Sets and boards will be provided. Prizes based on entries. Trophy to 1st, 2nd and top A,B,C,D,E/UNR, and free entry to "1998 Closed to '97" Champion. Mail Entries to: Ronald Schauer, Box 7084, Bismarck, ND 58507. For information call: (701)222-3278 or (701)673-3482.

Art Bayley's Bayleywick(Post flood Tourney)-Sat. May 31, 1997-2608 Pacific Coast Dr. Apt #4, Fargo, ND. From I-94, take downtown Fargo exit, then So. on University Dr. to 27th Av., then west 4 blocks to Pacific Dr. EF. 10, TC. 35/75, then g/30. Rds. 1st rd 10:10 AM. Succeeding rds when games are finished. Peter Thompson will give a workshop on opposite color Bishop endings (no fee) at 9-10 A.M. TD is Roger Buerkle.



USCF -rated Chess Tournament this Summer Grafton, ND

All tournaments in Grafton this summer will be at the Carnegie Regional Library, 49 Seventh Street West -- just a block off the main North-South street of Hill Ave. Entry to the Community Room of the Library is on the North side of the building. The Library is air conditioned and a separate small kitchen provides access to coffee, microwave oven, pop, etc.

Entry fee for all tournaments is \$10.00. USCF and NDCA memberships required and available at the site. Current sudden death rules will apply to the tournaments with sudden death. Digital clocks are the preferred clocks in sudden death. However, analog clocks are still okay.

Saturday, June 28, 1997 -- 1997 North Dakota Open Quick Chess Championship
Time control: G/29. At least 5 rounds will be played if at all possible. There may be more rounds played if there are a sufficient number of entries or double round robin is used. North Dakota residency is NOT required. Registration 9:15-9:30 AM. First 5 rounds would be 10 AM, 11:15 AM, 1 PM, 2:30 PM, 3:45 PM & 5 PM. More rounds possible if entries warrant and players prefer more rounds.

Saturday, July 19, 1997 -- Midsummer Open
Time control: 45/90 & 15/30. rounds at 10-2-6:30. Registration at 9:15-9:30 AM. Other particulars the same.

Saturday, August 16, 1997 -- Grafton Dog Days Open
Time controls: Games 1 & 2 are G/60. Game 3 is G/70 and Game 4 is G/90. Registration is 9:15-9:30 AM. Rounds at 10-1-3:15-6.

All tournaments will be rated full K. The June 28 tournament will provide a separate Quick Chess Rating by the USCF. Thus your regular rating will not be affected by the June 28 tourney.

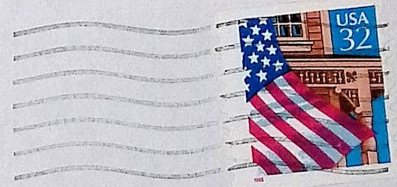
John Allensworth, Tournament Director, 1438 Fernwood Drive, Grafton, ND 58237.
Phone is 701-352-0352.

*****NOTE FROM DALE SAILER, Secretary/Treasurer*****

Because my home in Grand Forks was recently flooded there might be a delay getting back to anyone who writes. As of 4/25/97 I still haven't been able to get back into my home. I did get out the NDCA chess sets and vinyl boards but didn't get out the clocks. I believe they are ok but won't know until the house can be reentered. The trophy's for the scholastic and the closed were ordered and made up but I hadn't paid for them or picked them up so I will have to wait to deliver them until the trophy shop reopens. This may be an inconvenience but it was unavoidable. John Allensworth will have the NDCA sets in case I can't make the Scholastic or the Closed.

NORTH DAKOTA CHESS ASSOCIATION
Dale R. Sailer, Secretary
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FIRST CLASS MAIL



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